

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully points out the amendments made hereinabove to the claims which further clarify such claims.

The Examiner has stated in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance the following: "[t]he Office has deemed Applicant's latest claim amendments and corresponding remarks persuasive to overcome the rejection under the prior art references with respect to the following amended claim features:

A method of accessing and maintaining socket control information for high speed network connections, the method comprising the steps of:

storing socket control information in a control block (CB) cache in a transport offload engine (TOE);

wherein CB entries in the CB cache are comprised of socket control information for sockets assigned to the TOE by a host computer;

wherein the CB cache is a multi-port device providing direct access to the CB cache via each port;

wherein a first port is dedicated to transmit logic within the TOE;

wherein a second port is dedicated to receive logic within the TOE; and

wherein one of the said first and/or second ports are dedicated to time critical TOE clients" (emphasis added).

In response, applicant points out that at least some of the independent claims (e.g. Claims 1, 11, and/or 21) are not necessarily limited to at least the emphasized features that the Examiner has highlighted above. Just by way of example, by virtue of the clarifications made hereinabove to the independent claims, applicant's independent claims are not necessarily limited to a technique "wherein one of the said first and/or second ports are dedicated to time critical TOE clients," as the Examiner notes

Clearly, at least some of the independent claims are not necessarily limited to the features that the Examiner has noted above in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, as emphasized above (by way of example only). Instead, each of the claims should only be limited by the language existing therein.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. For payment of the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. NVIDP342).

Respectfully submitted,
Zilka-Kotab, PC

/KEVINZILKA/

Kevin J. Zilka
Registration No. 41,429

P.O. Box 721120
San Jose, CA 95172-1120
Telephone: (408) 505-5100